

University of Alaska Southeast

The Whalesong

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Annual Eagle Festival Dazzles

A November Weekend in Haines

By Kim Porter
 Whalesong Staff

As many as 3500 bald eagles congregate in the Chilkat Valley to feed off the November runs of chum and coho salmon. A lone female bald eagle sways through the air, dipping near the ground or water as her large, powerful eyes identify something of interest. She sees another bald eagle enjoying his lunch along the bank of the frozen river and decides to land on the edge of the water to steal the dead



Photo by Kim Porter
 Kerry and Hal during a lecture at the Eaglefest in Haines, AK.

salmon. They argue over the meat, forgetting that they only eat a half to one pound of food per day and at most, one full salmon in a week to fulfill their energy requirements. Even when an abundance of salmon, stealing prey from others is the most common way bald eagles feast—followed by scavenging and hunting.

This female *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, or bald eagle, weighs on average 11.5 pounds, which is two more pounds than the average male. The females are generally larger than their male counterpart—this is known as “reverse sexual dimorphism” and is common among all birds. With a typical wingspan of over seven feet, the female eagle is able to carry between four and six pounds of food. When hunting, eagles must be cautious of the size of the fish

they wish to grab from the water—if the fish is too large, the eagle might be pulled underwater. As a result, the eagle will drown because they lack the oils in their approximately 7,182 feathers that are needed to float.

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Photo by Kim Porter

“Salmon bring eagles and eagles bring people”

—Lt. Gov. Fran Ulmer

Future of facility unclear but options are many

What about the SAC?

By Al Treacy
 Whalesong Staff

As progress is made towards the realization of a National Guard and UAS joint-use recreational facility, many questions remain. One such question is what will the university do with the existing Student Activity Center (SAC)? The university is three years into a five-year “lease to own” contract for the SAC building. Unfortunately, the joint-use facility may or may not be completed when the lease expires.

“We don’t know what we will do with the SAC,” said Robbie Stell, Provost for UAS. “The SAC has potential for many uses and we may want to keep it.” However it is too premature to know with any certainty what the future will hold for the SAC because the available options depend on many different factors and issues. As it stands, there are three options the university may exercise—renegotiate a new lease if the joint-use facil-



Photo by Scott Foster

An older photo of the outside view of the current SAC. It's still too soon to tell what the future holds for the building.

ity is not completed, option the ‘purchase clause’ of the contract, or simply walk away.

If the university opts to negotiate a new lease, the uncertainty of when the joint-use facility will be completed complicates the issue. If the university agrees to a term longer than needed, the contract would bind the university with an unnecessary \$10,000 monthly rental

payment. UAS could negotiate a month-to-month lease but this presents other issues too.

One factor outside of the university’s control, is the owner’s plan for the building if the university decides not to exercise its purchase option. For those of you who do not remember, the SAC was an empty building collecting dust—aside from temporary and intermittent usage there it sat, unused. The owner’s economic windfall was the university’s interest in the building as the new SAC. Although the owner paid for the building to be brought up to the university’s specifications including

city building code compliance, the \$600,000 paid over the life of the five-year lease probably offset this cost. The owner now has a modern up-to-code building and may not want to lease to the university but instead, depending on current market conditions and the completion date for the joint-use facility,

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SAC continued from page 1



Photo by Scott Foster
Students utilizing the climbing wall at the current Student Activities Center, one of the many things that will move into the new building when the time comes.

SAC can be reconfigured to fulfill a specific department's need," said Stell.

However, Mike Green, Program Manager of Facilities and Planning, said each department will have to self assess itself and decide if the space is really needed and worth it. "\$10,000 sure is a lot and that is tough for any department to say yes, we will move in there," he said.

Whichever option the university pursues, each option is predicated on the timeliness of the joint-use facility's completion. Unfortunately, the possibility to predict when it will be completed is nearly impossible and so, the future of the SAC is unresolved. Fortunately, the plans to one day move into the new facility are underway; hopefully the joint-use facility's plans will catch up.

If you're new to UAS or have forgotten the history behind the SAC, the following will provide some insight on how the SAC evolved. Three years ago, our student government voted to increase student fees for every student enrolled in seven or more credits. There was a considerable amount of lobbying in support of this proposition by the UAS administration, and consequently the student government overwhelmingly voted to approve the fee increase. The premise: to provide a temporary recreational facility for UAS's students "on or near" the campus.

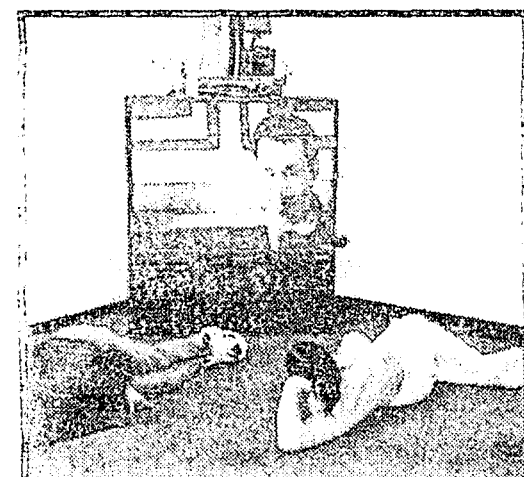


Photo by Scott Foster
Students can take a break by lounging around and watching the big screen T.V. at the SAC.

Collectively the administration and the student government intended for this new SAC to be temporary, and that the future joint-use recreational facility would facilitate the needs of the students and community.

The building of choice satisfying the "on or near" requirement is the old hardware store located next to Squire's and Pappy Poe's Pork Place. "It needed a lot of renovation but the owner was willing to accommodate our needs," said Dave Kleinpeter, the SAC director.

The new SAC will be closer to student housing and the campus, providing the students quicker access to the SAC and its amenities. Although all of the details have yet to be worked out, the new SAC promises to offer UAS student, alumni, and faculty a modern, state-of-the-art recreational facility. Although the rent is steep, the temporary SAC has paid back the university 10-fold in terms of student satisfaction and usefulness. The SAC offers a multitude of activity-type options. Students can play pool, surf the web, or lounge on the couches as they watch their favorite movie on the big screen TV. Student organized dances are also held at the SAC and are highly successful with over 250 students attending the most recent dance.

Students can also participate in student organized climbing competitions at the indoor climbing wall or sign-up for various aerobic/exercise classes. If indoor-type activities leave you yearning for more adventure,

may opt to sell the building or find another lessee and charge more rent.

The option to walk away exists but is probably unreasonable, considering our \$600,000 total investment, the \$100,000 start-up costs notwithstanding. With the campus master plan currently under review, the university may incorporate the SAC into the overall plan. "The

the SAC offers, for a fee, outdoor rental equipment. Students can rent climbing gear, kayaks, tents, snowshoes and similar equipment.

"It is really hard to tell when exactly we will move, but pretty much everything you see, the climbing wall, lights, sound system, everything will go to the new SAC," said Kleinpeter.

The SAC has fulfilled the original requirements of the administration and student body. It has facilitated, climbing seminars, aerobics, slide shows and survived dances and hypnotists. It has been an outlet for students to enjoy as they temporarily escape the hectic life of college. Although the future is yet to be decided, one thing is for sure, the SAC has been appreciated.

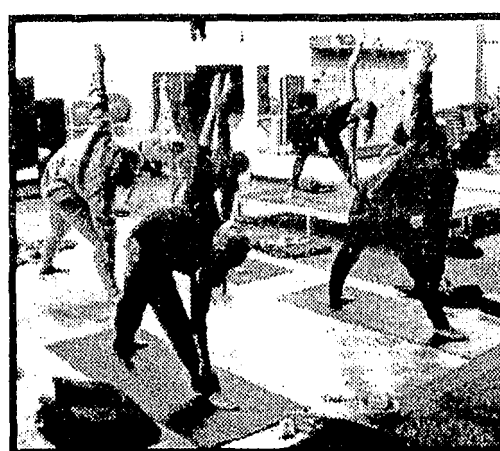


Photo by Scott Foster
Yoga classes that are offered at the SAC are usually pretty full.

World Trade Center becomes newest tourist attraction

By David Jackson
The Dallas Morning News

NEW YORK - New York City's newest tourist attraction is not a sports stadium or an art museum. It is a demolition site and a graveyard, the remains of the World Trade Center - a smoldering, dusty monument to terrorist destruction. To thousands of Americans, visiting the site of the former Twin Towers has become a pilgrimage as they find themselves drawn to Ground Zero.

"I wanted to say 'thank you' to the ones who have given so much," said Carolyn Cox, part of a Big Apple tour group from Richmond, Va. "There's a silence here, a respect." "It's sacred ground." Cox pointed up to the street sign at the corner of Washington and Carlisle, where old newspapers remain wedged. "Look at those papers ... whose life was that a part of?" she wondered.

While some vendors in the area try to cash in on the tragedy - selling Twin Towers photos, patriotic pins and FDNY and NYPD T-shirts - most visitors go directly to barricades along Broadway to snap pictures of the wreckage. The reverent, the history-minded, and the curious have trekked here. They have left behind flowers, shirts, caps, candles, teddy bears, and written tributes to the victims and survivors of Sept. 11.

As wrecking balls file down the jagged remains of collapsed buildings, some people pray while others snap pictures. Some talk of what it must have been like when the planes struck each tower. Others wonder if other attacks are part of America's permanent future. "I think it's the first time we've realized that this can happen to us, here in America," said Jean Stanislaw, a businesswoman from Sun Valley, Idaho. "It's just something I think everyone should see. We have to be on guard, we have to take our freedom more seriously."

While New York City officials have given tours to President Bush and other high-profile guests, they remain leery of tourism in what Mayor Rudolph Giuliani called "hallowed ground." But Giuliani, who once ordered arrests of people taking pictures in restricted areas, has now announced plans for a public viewing platform to accommodate holiday visitors. "People have a very legitimate and honest interest in wanting to be able to see it," Giuliani recently told reporters.

Thanksgiving brought thousands of tourists who wanted to go to ground zero. Lisa Dalton, who supervised a drill team from South Garland High School that marched in the Macy's parade, called the experience "very, very moving." "I just thought it was an important part of our history, as horrible as it is," Dalton said. "It was something to show respect."

The crowds have gradually increased in the weeks since the tragedy, said nearby residents. "I know it bothers some of my neighbors - it's never nice to live in a tourist center," said Don Sexton, an international business professor at Columbia University. "But it doesn't bother me. I understand." A painter, Sexton is drawing artistic inspiration from the new visitors. He is painting an impressionistic portrait of gawkers at Church Street and Park Place. "I paint the neighborhood," Sexton said. "That's what I do. It helps me deal with it."

Nearby, people clamber onto windowsills to get better pictures of wreckage that looks like a burned and twisted erector set. Large mounds of junk piles still burn. The air retains an acrid smell that has some worried about environmental quality in the age of anthrax. Jackhammer-wielding workers

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Voice on Campus Poll

Photos and quotes collected by Summer Todd-Harding

What are your plans for the holiday break?



Darren Williams
"EAT!!!"



Sarah Martin
"I will be working on three papers and one presentation...oh yeah, and cooking."



Luke Tabor
"Potlucks and friends with as much time outside thrown in."



Dustin Castoe
"Homework! Papers! Hopefully go hunting!"

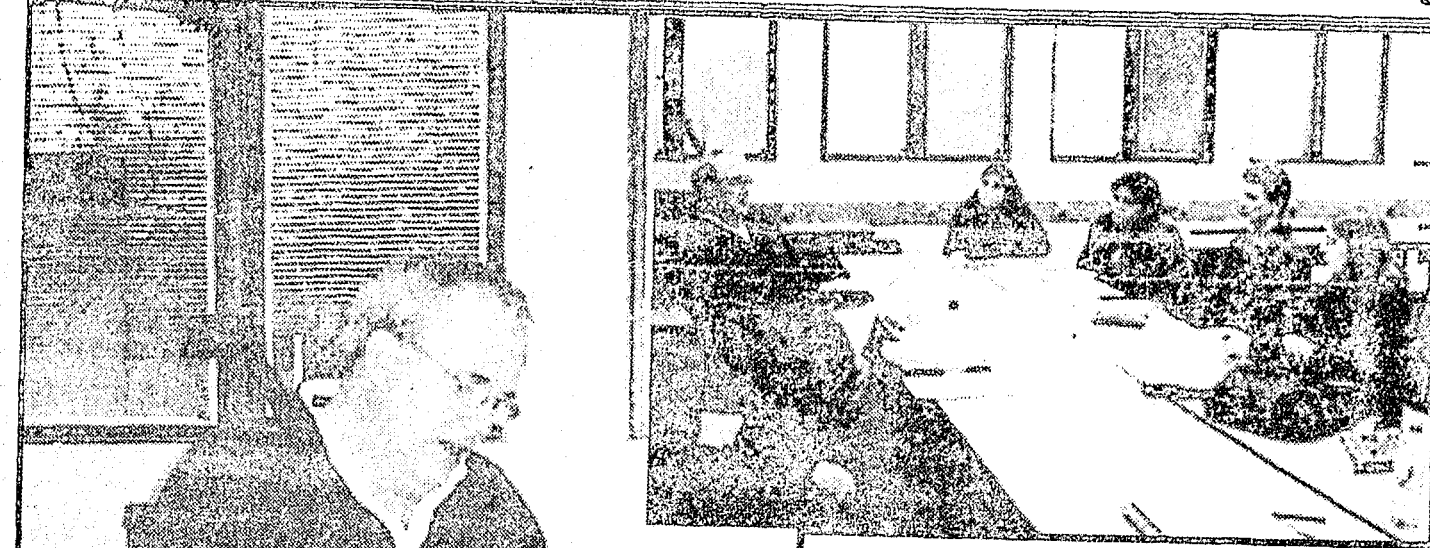
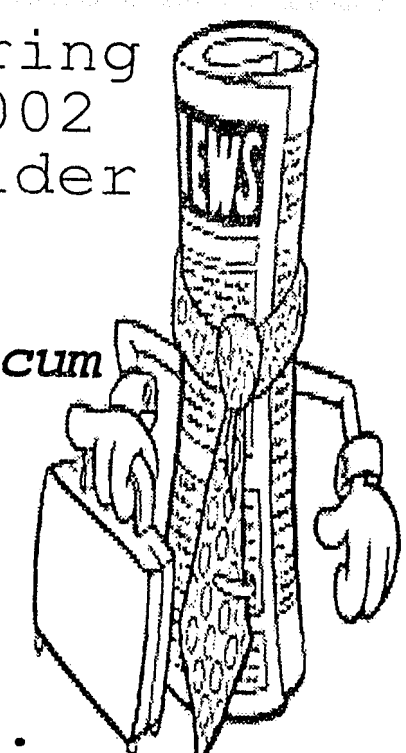


Zach Gowdy
"Relax, indulge in being a slacker while there's nothing to slack from."

When registering for Spring 2002 classes consider the JOUR 294, 394, and 494

Newspaper Practicum

class. You can sign up for 1-3 credits and see your name and work in print.



Photos by Kim Porter
Sitka Author John Straley speaks and reads to the Humanities 120 class November 12-13.

Alaskan author visits classes

By Kim Porter
Whalesong Staff

Alaska mystery writer John Straley visited the Humanities 120 classes Nov 12-13. As a private investigator and author, Straley lives with his wife Jan, a UAS Sitka campus faculty member, and son in Sitka. His presentation in the classes informed the students of the writing process of his six published novels.

He begins writing a book by first choosing a title, usually influenced by poetry. Then he writes the geography, usually of Alaska, for his novel and develops the characters by using traits from people he has met. The storylines of the mystery novels are based mainly on his personal experiences. However, Straley believes landscape and setting is the map to the entire novel. He stated, "The plot...is not driving the train in my stories, it is the setting."

Straley's encouraging words allowed students to learn more about the writing process, as well as how difficult it is to become published. He told students that his publisher gets about 8,000 books every year and of those, a dozen might get published. However, Straley encourages authors to continue writing. He stated, "It is a really exciting time to be a writer in Alaska. If you can write your actual experiences in Alaska, there is an audience for it."

Nominations now being accepted

The 2002 Edith R. Bullock prize for excellence is open

Submitted by UANews
Whalesong Contributor

The University of Alaska Foundation announces that nominations are now being accepted for the 2002 Edith R. Bullock Prize for Excellence.

The purpose of the prize is to recognize and reward an individual who has demonstrated excellence in support of the University of Alaska. Any individual, regardless of University affiliation, is eligible for nomination for the prize, which carries with it a \$15,000 award for the recipient. The selection committee will base its decision primarily on two criteria:

1. The extent to which the individual demonstrates a specific, definable, notable accomplishment which benefits the University (establishment of an academic or administrative program, the development of a course, the successful completion of a project, the achievement of a research discovery, the provision of a needed university or public service, the achievement of an educational goal, the publication of a thesis or paper, the achievement of national recognition, etc.)

2. The extent to which the individual demonstrates general support of the University either through service, advocacy, philanthropy, etc. Nominations must be completed on the nomination form, which can be found at the Foundation web site, http://www.alaska.edu/uafound/process_policy/bullock.html.

Nominations received in other formats will not be accepted. Only complete nominations will be considered. Nominations may be sent to the Foundation office at 910 Yukon Drive, Suite 206, Fairbanks, AK 99775. All nominations from all sources must be received in the Foundation Office or postmarked by December 1, 2001, to be considered for the 2002 prize. Nominations received by the Foundation after that date will be considered for next year's prize.

For more information contact Amanda Wall, Coordinator, University of Alaska Foundation. (907) 474-5136 or email at Amanda.Wall@alaska.edu.

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The Whalesong

The student voice
of UAS

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The University of Alaska Southeast student newspaper, *The Whalesong*, is a free bi-monthly publication with a circulation of 1000 copies per issue. The Whalesong's primary audience includes students, faculty, staff, and community members.

The Whalesong will strive to inform and entertain its readers, analyze and provide commentary on the news, and serve as a public forum for the free exchange of ideas.

The staff of *The Whalesong* values freedom of expression and encourages reader response. *The Whalesong* editorial staff assumes no responsibility for the content of material. The views and opinions contained in this paper in no way represent the University of Alaska, and reflect only those of the author(s).

There I was last May, in Texas visiting my future sister-in-law Jessa (they got married in September). She planned the whole trip and my only requests for my 4-day visit were to go to the Dave Matthews Band concert and to spend a day at the beach. Her request was simple enough; all I had to do was jump out of a perfectly good plane at 10,000-plus feet. I was game...those events are always the best, you know the ones that just sort of fall into your lap. It was the same when I went scuba diving in Chania, para-sailing in South Padre Island, water skiing on Crystal Lake, and got my eyebrow pierced in Virginia Beach, oh yeah, and that one time that I spent New Year's Eve in New Orleans with my best friend. (There's more, but I'll spare you.)

So, there I was watching a 30-minute video and then spending another 30 minutes filling out paperwork, basically signing my life away. I wasn't scared, not even nervous it was more like an intense excitement even when I was suiting up in the jump suit for the video and the next thing I knew we were walking calmly out to that fully operational and perfectly sound airplane that would take us up to altitude for our first tandem sky dive.

The only time I felt even the slightest trepidation was when we were height, it passed quickly and there I was at approximately 10,000 feet with a man attached to my back. After a few final instructions my feet flew falling, but it wasn't at all the falling feeling one experiences in dreams helplessness, it was exhilarating! The sun was bright and there were few ment I happened to plummet into a cloud that came out of nowhere. make faces at the camera on top of the guy's head that had jumped out a

The tangibility of the cloud was a smidgen cooler than the other air I had plunged through and it was slightly more damp. This cloud was HUGE, it seemed to go on forever a big white mass that I came to call my own. That cloud allowed me to free-fall a bit longer than Jessa who was first to jump since the whole event was her idea. My longer free-fall time also meant that I beat her to the ground and with my adrenaline pumping I landed splendidly and hugged my tandem dive instructor and thought WOW! I was speechless. After she landed and we were walking back to the building to remove our jump suits I looked up at the sky and tried to pick out my cloud. I figured it had to be the biggest one up there.

As our hearts settled down we were able to view our videos and I laughed until there were tears in my eyes at all the odd contortions my face went through (even before I was making faces) it looked as if my cheeks were flapping...literally! What a fantabulous experience! While we drove towards the beach later that day I thought about my cloud and while I enjoyed meeting it I decided that if another opportunity arose to sky dive I would have to do it again — minus my cloud.

Has the goal of terrorism been realized?

By Rob Dailey
Whalesong Staff

Exactly what effect the terrorists intended by drilling airplanes into buildings is still unclear. It has been said that they wanted to remind Americans of their vulnerability. It has been speculated that the attacks were meant as a sort of punishment for the American position in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. And it has been suggested that the terrorists simply wanted to attack freedom itself. No one really knows for certain what those lunatics expected to achieve. But if they meant to draw attention to the problems Muslims face in the modern world, they have definitely succeeded.

Since the attack, Americans have been busy learning. In the months following Sept. 11, sales of the Quran, the principal Muslim holy book, have quadrupled, according to the *Seattle Post Intelligencer*. The book's main publisher, Penguin Books, has had to airlift shipments of the Quran from the United Kingdom to meet the demand.

One way Americans deal with tragedy is to try to find

the reason behind it. What kind of people would do this? What led up to it? And in a very real way, we try to find something that will reassure us that it won't happen again. But in this case, that reassurance might not be so easy to find.

The deeper into the issue you delve, the more complicated it becomes. As seems usual, before the United States sent troops into Afghanistan, few Americans could have found the country on a map. Even fewer knew that the American-backed Afghani "freedom fighters" had been in a bitter struggle with Russia during the Cold War. Now this is fairly widely known.

Other Muslim problems have come to the front pages, too. Mainstream America is beginning to examine the American position in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Because of the interest generated by Sept. 11, reporters are covering the situation more thoroughly. This is leading to pertinent questions and calls for accountability. And the sometimes-exaggerated claim by foreigners that the American media

does not adequately cover events outside of the United States is beginning to sound true. Maybe we don't get enough information to adequately decide where we should stand and to elect our officials accordingly.

Here at UAS, as is certainly the case at many other universities in America, the discussion has begun. The foreign exchange club, Global Con-

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Thank you for reading and supporting
your student paper!

Stop by the office and tell us
what you think anytime. Also be
sure to check out our website at:
www.whalesongonline.com

We are located in Rm. 102 downstairs in the
Maurant Building across from the cashier window.

Letters to the Editor

The Whalesong gladly accepts letters to the editor. Letters may not exceed 300 words, and may be edited for length, clarity, and grammar. Letters must be signed and include a means of contact for verification. Send your letters to 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801, whalesong@uas.alaska.edu, by fax to (907) 465-6399, or bring them to Room 102, Maurant Bldg.



Feel better (and do better) next semester

By Pam Webster, LCSW
UAS Counselor

Many students have discovered Pam Webster's office at #209 Novatney. Pam has worked at the UAF Center for Health and Counseling and is a licensed clinical social worker. Call 465-6457 to schedule an appointment or call 465-1298 for more information.

Welcome back to UAS following the Thanksgiving break! Since I started this job in September, I've learned a great deal about the kinds of help UAS students need to make their college experience successful. Some of today's suggestions are new but, knowing that people learn through repetition, most reflect highlights from my earlier Whalesong columns this semester. I hope that your finals go well, that you have a pleasant holiday, and that you come back refreshed and ready to actively engage in your student life.

Sign up for a group: 1) "Stay-on-Track" support group — if procrastination or staying up late were problematic this semester, or 2) Eating disorders support — if your relation-

ship with food is out of control. Please call Pam direct now at 465-1298 to get on the list for these new spring semester groups which are forming.

Join our light therapy program. If you have a physiological response (sleeping long hours, difficulty waking up in the morning, carbohydrate craving) to the short days and low light conditions we're experiencing now in Juneau, call the Student Resource Center at 465-6457 to schedule appointments for assessment and light therapy orientation. Following assessment and orientation, students will be able to check out a light box from the Activities and Housing front desk downstairs in Maurant. Students may take light therapy five days a week for 25 minutes at a time in the student lounge. Take a look at the book, *Winter Blues* (1998 revised edition) by Norman Rosenthal, M.D., for more information on this problem.

Work the right number of hours. After my employment article went to press, I talked to Dr. Courtney Stryker at the University of Montana, who said that most research shows that students who work some in college do better and are

more organized than students who don't work. The trick is to work the right amount. 20 hours a week of work is usually considered maximum for a full-time student. In my personal experience, 15 hours a week is plenty.

Study the right number of hours. As a rule of thumb, plan to spend two hours studying for every hour that you spend in class. That means if you're taking 12 credits, you should be spending 24 hours a week on homework and studying on average. Schedule this study time into your planner and then make it happen. Get enough sleep. Count backwards 8 or 9 hours from when your morning class meets. That's probably a reasonable bedtime (unless your first class is at 7 p.m. J). Wait until Friday and Saturday nights to party and stay up late. Many students find they get sick if they stay up too late too often and that their studies suffer. Don't crash this semester (or next) because you didn't take care of yourself well. Call for an appointment with the UAS Counselor if you need to learn self-management skills, you are "in crisis" over your finals, or you have other mental health concerns.



Photos by Jennifer Howell

Thanksgiving Housing Style

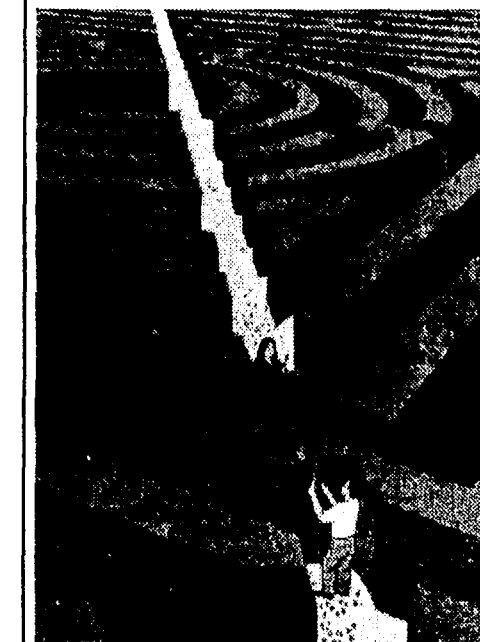
Many were far from home this past Thanksgiving, but housing students were all welcome to a traditional meal Thursday night in the Housing Lodge. More than 15 students helped consume the food purchased by housing and prepared with everyone's help. The lodge was a busy place that day as students went in and out donating their time and cooking skills. Many joined just for the food and then a lazy night on the couch watching TV. While others were there all day helping Amy Bridgers and the CA's prepare for the 5 o'clock feeding.

Housing residents grow closer when they participate in a group activity that has satisfying end results. The dinner had an excellent result because everyone walked away full and happy, laughing and teasing each other. With the cold holiday season ahead this dinner was a better gift than any found on a store shelf, the gift of friendship and love. Changes are in progress at housing, so this was one event that was sure to help overpower loneliness and depression as the semester and year grow closer to an end.

Be smart!

Talk with your advisor
BEFORE
registering for spring
semester classes.

UAS advisors will
help make sure
your classes move you
most quickly
toward your degree.



If you need an advisor
or have any questions,
call the
Student
Resource Center
or stop by the
Novatney Bldg.

465-6457

Terrorism... continued from page 4 nections, has hosted several speakers who have brought new perspectives on the issue, leaving some UAS students nearly reeling with indignation at the behavior of their own country. So now, without a doubt, when these students go to the polls the next time, they will be asking some very different and difficult questions to their leaders. And things will change.

So, did those inhuman terrorists achieve their goal? If they wanted to draw sympathetic attention to the modern Muslim condition, they did. America has been startled awake, and we have reacted by educating ourselves. It's certainly the right thing to do — it's just unfortunate that those bastard murders are getting what they wanted, too.

FEATURES

Is Alaska in denial of the threat of anthrax?

"It can't happen here."

By Kevin T. Myers
Whalesong Staff

As the threat of Taliban forces in Afghanistan dwindles and its surrender seems imminent the threat of anthrax at home does not seem to be going away. The recent death of a Connecticut woman brings the anthrax death count to five. In recent weeks an anthrax-laced letter addressed to Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont was found among the quarantined mail in the Brentwood Postal Annex that services Capitol Hill. That is the second known contaminated letter sent to the Brentwood annex for processing. The first was delivered to the office of Sen. Tom Daschle. Two Brentwood postal employees who were exposed to the Daschle letter died from inhalation anthrax and several others were hospitalized. The third and fourth known letters were sent to Tom Brokaw's office at NBC in New York and the New York Post. The other anthrax victims were a stockroom worker at Manhattan Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital and a photo editor from American Media Inc. in Florida.

Anthrax spores have also been found recently in the offices of Democratic Sen.'s Kennedy, Feingold, Dodd and Lieberman. Spores have now been detected in U.S. Post Service, USPS, facilities in New Jersey, New York, Indiana, Missouri, Virginia, Maryland, Florida and the District of Columbia. From four known letters, five are dead and over 30,000 non-military people are taking the antibiotic Cipro to prevent infection from anthrax. American Postal Workers Union President, William Burrus told CNN that the union would boycott any postal facility where anthrax is found and is not entirely shut down for decontamination. Burrus's announcement came after the Postal Service's decision to close only the sections of a facility where anthrax is detected. "I am unwilling for the employees to be used as guinea pigs," Burrus told CNN.

Is any of this a concern for those

who handle the mail in Alaska? Postal Service spokesperson Nancy Schmitt said, "it's business as usual." Stating it has always been on the lookout for suspicious mail and that "gloves and masks have always been available and they are available now if people want them." It has been three pieces of mail out of an estimated 30 billion the postal service has delivered since Sept. 11th, said Schmitt.

Schmitt did say that operations had to be stopped twice in recent months for postal inspectors to investigate suspected contaminated packages. Once for a package of Jell-O pudding mix that had burst open and the other was evidently a prank in which someone used baking powder. "Whoever is pulling these hoaxes are sick people," said Schmitt.

The Post Office has a list of things for which to be on the lookout when opening the mail. Excessive postage, oddly shaped or sized packages, packages with odd smells or stains, packages or letters without return addresses, misspelled words are some of the things on the list.

Frank Fisher, who sorts the mail for UAS said, "We get goofy packages like that all the time... If I lived in New Jersey, New York or Washington I'd be worried, but way up here I think it's about just using common sense... I'm watching out for it, but it's not really a big concern."

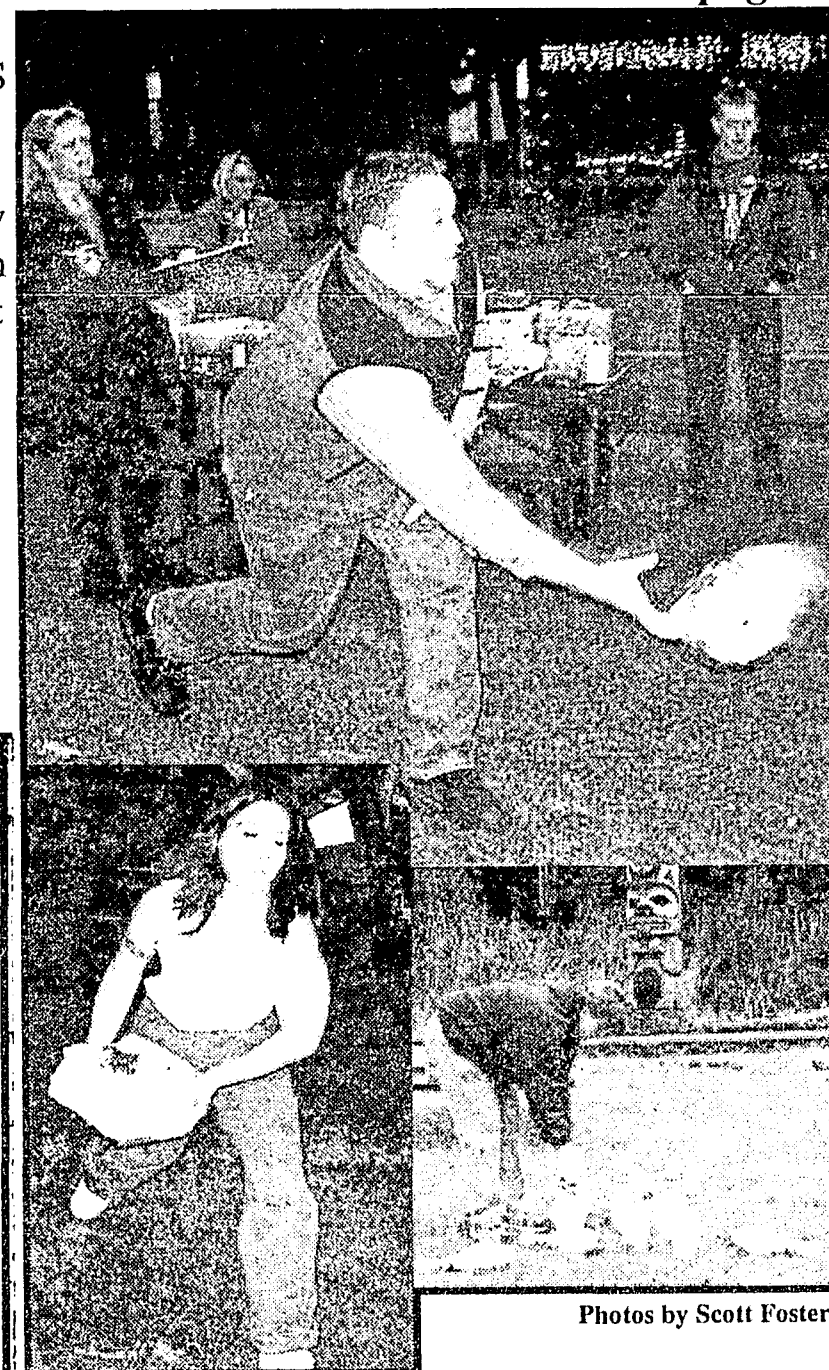
Fisher does observe the guidelines sent by the United Postal Service, Federal Express, the State of Alaska and USPS, the content of which were all very similar, "it's really just about common sense, like not throwing the mail around while sorting it," said Fisher.

Margie McWilliams an attorney for Alaska Legal Services in Juneau got an interoffice memo explaining the USPS guidelines. The memo stated the organization would pay for rubber gloves from petty cash for any employee who was concerned about opening the mail. McWilliams didn't take them up on the offer. "I don't think about anthrax," said McWilliams. "I don't know why someone would want to reach Juneau, Alaska, but I don't know why someone would want to do that in general. Whether there will be an outbreak here or not? I highly doubt it."

Cassy Blackwell, office manager for Whiteoak Entertainment was only slightly more concerned stating that the Star and Magic radio stations get a lot of mail from the east coast. "It [the concern] is there, but I try not to worry about it," said Blackwell. She also suggested that Juneau was too isolated to be a target.

At the Governor's office, "Changes were put into place for handling mail. Mailroom

Continued on page 12



Photos by Scott Foster

UAS' Annual Turkey Bowl!

Mark Graves strikes a pose and becomes Turkey Bowl King winning the event with the highest score (above). Heather Noe shows her bowling talents (lower left). Kim Porter resets the pins after each bowl (lower right).

**It's Time to Make
your Move**

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Student and Community Submissions

Student and community submissions of art, photography, written work, and personal experiences are both welcomed and encouraged at *The Whalesong*. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity, grammar, and taste, and must include a name and means of contact for verification. If the submission is to be returned, please include an address and daytime phone number. Send submissions to 11120 Glacier Hwy, Juneau, AK 99801, whalesong@uas.alaska.edu, by fax to (907) 465-6399, or bring them to Room 102, Mourant Bldg.

Eaglefest continued from page 1

The bald eagles, ("bald" once meaning "white,") had a bounty on them in the early 1900s because it was thought that the birds were competing with humans for salmon. It is believed that between 1917 and 1952 the government paid for talons from approximately 64,000 bald eagles.

Once it was realized there was a decline in eagles, the bounty was removed. But then another problem arose...during World War II, the pesticide DDT further contributed to the decline of eagles in the U.S. The chemical broke down the eggshells, which caused eaglets to die before hatching on the 35th day of incubation. Since less than 10 percent of the eagles live to be mature birds anyway, DDT furthered the decrease in eagle population. After realizing the damage from the harmful pesticide, the government banned the use of DDT. The eagle population then began a slow comeback. However, this did not prevent the eagles from being listed as endangered for many years. Now, with the eagle population increasing, there is an estimated 80,000-100,000 bald eagles worldwide.

All of this information and more was presented at the 7th annual Bald Eagle Festival. The plan was for 40-plus UAS students to go to Haines for the festival Nov. 9-11. Then the bad news arrived. Due to a mechanical problem, the ferry was cancelled and an alternate ride to Haines was needed. Because of the abundant snowfall, flying was not an option. Finally, UAS participants were able to get tickets on an Allen Marine catamaran, changing the schedule from Friday evening to Friday morning. With this change, many students would

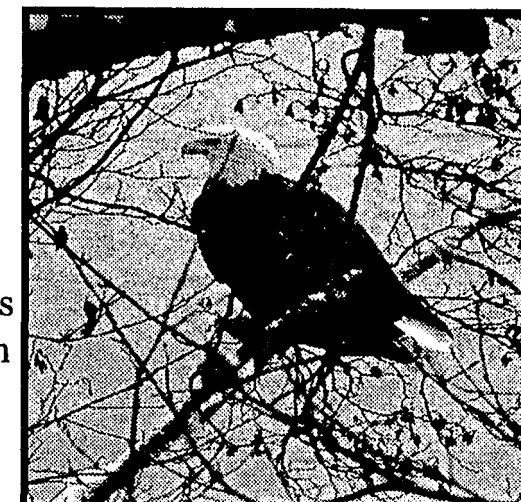


Photo by Kim Porter
One of many eagles that rest comfortably in the branches of the trees at the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve.

not be able to miss their Friday classes. Upon arriving in Haines, it was realized that the UAS crowd had dwindled to approximately 15 students, with a few more arriving Saturday morning. However, the small crowd was comfortable—people didn't have

to sleep so close in the primary school gym in Haines, nor did they have to wait long for the (one and only) shower.

The festival was kicked off Friday night at the Chilkat Center.

Keynote speaker Lieutenant Governor Fran Ulmer greeted festival participants—via telephone. The snow prevented her plane from landing in Haines, but as dedicated as she is, she arranged a phone call to the festival. Her inspirational speech educated participants on the different programs in Alaska and worldwide.

Ulmer believes that "salmon bring eagles and eagles bring people," which supports the annual festival in Haines to celebrate the gathering of the birds. As an adopted Tlingit, Ulmer recognizes the importance of the salmon for the survival of both humans and wildlife. She stated, "Salmon are life-blood of not only eagles, but humans as well."

The Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve, created nearly two decades ago, is a popular feeding ground for bald eagles, as well as observ-

ing place for people from all over the world. The 48,000 acres of the preserve attract eagles because of the open, unfrozen waters and spawned-out salmon in fall and winter months. The Chilkat Valley has the largest congregation of bald eagles in the world during these months.

Many studies have been done over the last few years to record the migration of eagles. Speaker Glenn Stewart of Santa Cruz, Calif. shared his knowledge and experiences of tracking birds in the wild. The research method he uses is referred to as "fat man biology" because the scientists can track the birds from their computers and have to do little fieldwork. Bands

Seifert jokes, "His first successful take off and landing was in a helicopter." Unfortunately, Hal's wing never healed completely and he won't be able to fly in the wild. He lives with Seifert and in the 13 years Hal has been in captivity, Seifert has been his main handler and has formed a tight friendship with the eagle. Hal will not allow others to touch or come near him—Seifert proved this when he asked his wife to approach them onstage. Hal began to warn her with his voice and big eyes, directed at her.

Hal, short for *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, is only one of many eagles used for educational purposes. Many eagles, as well as various other birds, get injured and cannot be released into the wild. After the handler obtains a special permit, the birds are used to educate others. Some birds do get released back into the wild—during the festival, there were three eagles released. After one eagle was released at dawn Saturday, participants of the festival gathered at the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve to witness the release of two other eagles that afternoon.

The last day of the festival Kerry Seifert captured an eagle infected with pox,

which can eventually kill a bird. The young eagle will have surgery and be medicated to remove the pox, but will remain blind in one eye. Hopefully the Bird Treatment and Learning Center is able to successfully treat the pox and the eagle can heal. Perhaps that eagle will be released at eagle festival 2002, but hopefully even sooner.

It was Kerry Seifert and Hal of the Bird Treatment and Learning Center in Anchorage that stole the show Friday evening. Hal, a male bald eagle, left his nest too early as an eaglet and "crash-landed." With his left wing severely injured, some fishermen found him wobbling along the beach of a small Alaskan town. A coastguard helicopter arrived to rescue and transport the bird.



Photo by Kim Porter

A large group of UAS students gathered for a photo op. amongst the snow and the eagles at the Haines Eaglefest Nov. 9-11.

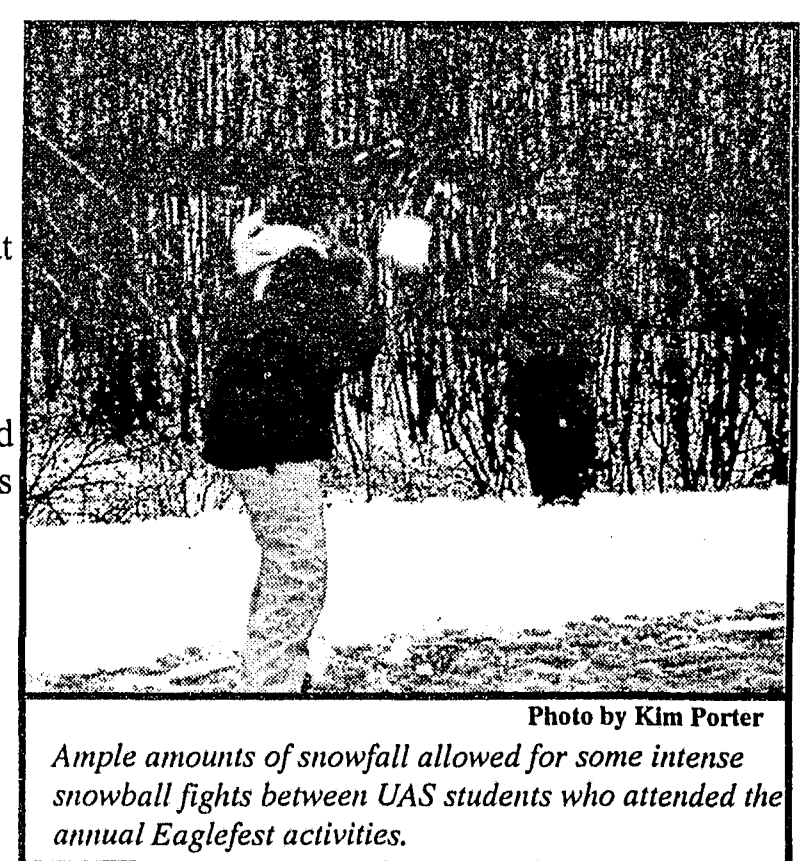
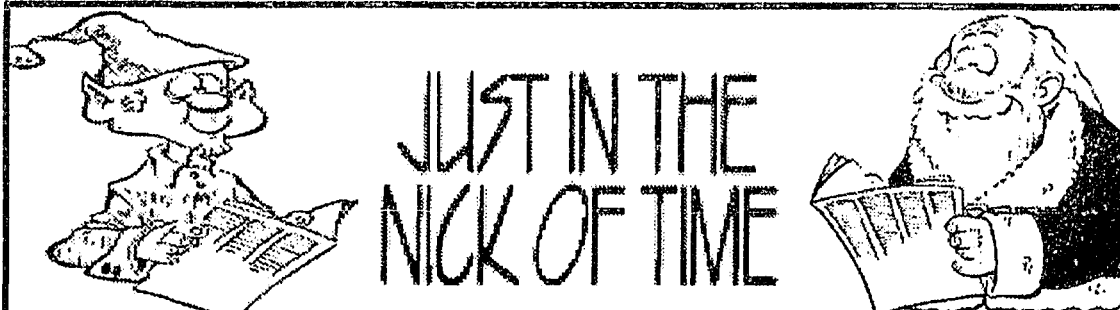


Photo by Kim Porter

Ample amounts of snowfall allowed for some intense snowball fights between UAS students who attended the annual Eaglefest activities.



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Ketchikan & Sitka

UAS Sitka news briefs

Compiled by M.J. Booth
Whalesong Staff

Jan Straley, Assistant Professor in marine biology, will be attending the 14th Biennial conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals Nov. 28-Dec. 3. The conference is taking place in Vancouver B.C. While there she will present "Birth Intervals and Calving Rates of Central North Pacific Humpback Whales." Straley, got her master's degree in the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and has been emphasizing her work in whale research recently.



Carol Liberty, Health Information Program Director, attended the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act conference in Alaska. Liberty completed her master's degree in Adult Education at the University of Tennessee in 1985. In the Fall of 1992 Liberty implemented the Health Information Management program at the University of Alaska Southeast.

It's the end of the semester and you're tied up in knots! Here are some tips to help keep your insanity levels down:

1. At lunch time, sit in your parked car with sunglasses on and point a hair dryer at passing cars. See if they slow down.
2. Every time someone asks you to do something, ask if they want fries with that.
3. In the memo field of all your checks, write "for sexual favors".
4. Put your garbage can on your desk and label it "In".
5. Finish all your sentences with "in accordance with the prophecy."
6. Specify that your drive-through order is "to go."
7. When the money comes out the ATM, scream "I won! I won! Third time this week!!!!"
8. Have your fellow students and teachers address you by your wrestling name, "Rock Hard Omar."
9. Tell each of your roommates, "Due to the economy, we are going to have to let one of you go."
10. Five days in advance, tell your friends you can't attend their party because you're not in the mood.



Ketchikan news briefs

By Jennifer Howell
Whalesong Staff

The UAS Ketchikan Student Government and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society were serving up fry bread and Indian tacos to the public at Wal-Mart on the busiest and biggest shopping day of the year. Friday, November 23, the two groups were at Wal-Mart selling hot and fresh fry bread as a fundraiser for the two groups. As an added incentive Wal-Mart agreed to match the proceeds. All the revenue from the joint fundraiser will go towards UAS Ketchikan's student activities.

UAS Ketchikan's VideoVersity ends its 1950's Sci-Fi film series on December 1 with the eerie movie *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*. The series is a free community event sponsored by UAS Ketchikan. It is held the first Saturday of each month at 7 p.m. in the UAS Ketchikan Library. The spring theme has been chosen and will be "Mistaken Identities." Films that will be shown include *Some Like It Hot*, *Being There*, *The Wrong Man*, and *Memento*. Watch for the dates and times of VideoVersity early in the spring semester.

The spring preview of class schedules are now available at the Ketchikan campus. Early registration will begin after Thanksgiving on November 26th. Students are also welcome to take a look at the schedule online at www.ketch.alaska.edu. The complete spring class schedule will be posted on the website after Thanksgiving as well. Printed copies will be available early in December and schedules will be mailed to Ketchikan's general public right after Christmas.

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Sports & Entertainment

Tlingit and Haida art displayed

By Summer Dorr
Whalesong Staff

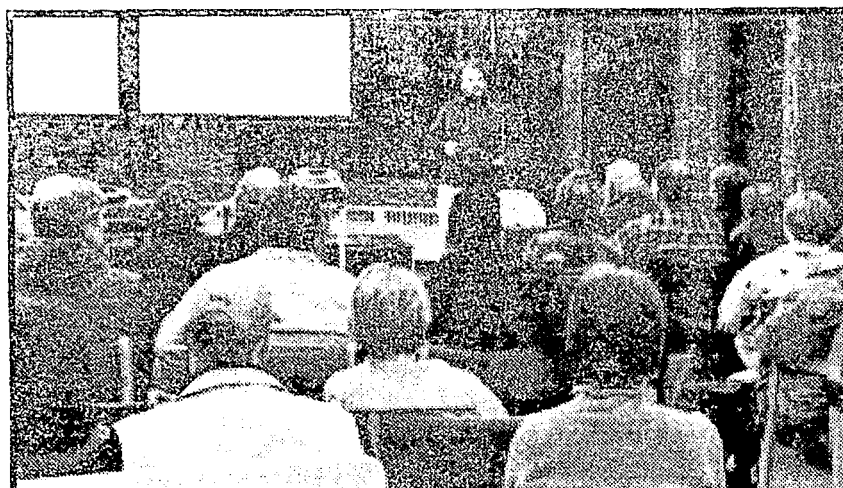


Photo by Scott Foster
Steve Hendrikson's Evening at Egan presentation on Friday. About 85 attended to learn about "The Evolution of Tlingit and Haida Art."

'Evening at Egan' program here on the UAS campus.

From ancient artifacts to modern-day jewelry, Alaska Native art was shown to be functional and unique. Tlingit and Haida artists are "learning the original and carrying the art into new directions," Hendrikson said.

As part of the program, Hendrikson showed examples and slides of various Tlingit and Haida art.

Sculpted tools carved by the Tlingit and Haida clans were found to be functional art. For example, a halibut hook artifact was shown. A hook that was not only a fishing lure but also had a carved design embedded in the wood.

There were bowls formed like canoes and bentwood boxes (storage containers) that were beautifully engraved with traditional designs of their heritage crests that also double as both art and a functional piece of property.

Slides were shown of Native headdresses. One in particular was that of a lion's head with sea lion whiskers, a hat that doubled as a rattle for ritual dancing.

Hendrikson also discussed Native ritual robes, carved trail-markers in trees, basket weaving, festive masks, form-line designs that were/are a vital part of their culture.

The totem poles, perhaps the most well known Native art, have carved designs embedded into them. The designs are not only of each clan's crest but Hendrikson explained how even "the white man" was a crest on earlier poles.

Hendrikson told of when a clan first saw a white person, they had a crest made in their likeness. The carved shape, however, was of Abe Lincoln top hat and all.

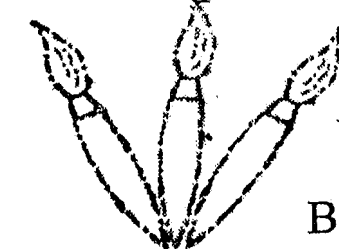
As the slides clicked on you begin to realize that most Tlingit and Haida art serves more than one purpose. Not only does each piece carry with it tradition and history but is also unique and functional.

Hendrikson said the Tlingit and Haida culture "is a rich tradition that is an on-going process."

For those of you who are interested in learning more about this art, Steve Hendrikson is offering ART 263- Northwest Coast Native Art History and Culture this spring and is eager to show his some 2,000-slide collection of this culture.

Preview

Wednesday, November 28th-
Student Art show reception in
the Egan library from 4:30
p.m. - 7 p.m.



Friday, November 30th-
Student Art shown at the
Baranof Hotel from 4-8 p.m.

Thursday, November 29th-
Turkish music and talk
at Noon in
the Lake Room.



Friday, November 30-
Comedian Ted Alexandro
at the SAC 6 p.m.

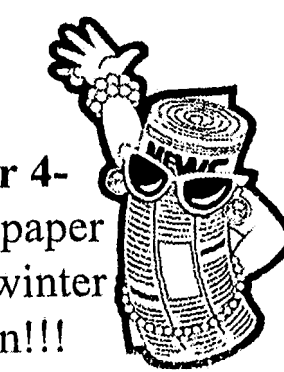


Monday, December 3rd-
Stress Week Activities
begin.



Sunday, December 2nd -
Last showing of The
Winter's Tale at the Perse-
verance Theatre

Tuesday, December 4-
WATCH for the final paper
of the semester! The winter
break special edition!!!



Horoscopes

By Lasha Seniuk

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Business relations may change without warning. Expect a sudden expansion of ideas. Group projects may be affected. Many Capricorns will be easily welcomed into inner circles. Watch for obvious invitations. Loved ones may be privately irritated by your ongoing social interests. Stay alert. Deep insecurities may be at issue.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). Rest and extra time spent with romantic partners will soon reaffirm your faith in human nature. Compare notes with others concerning important social changes. Loved ones will be inspired by your observations. Enjoy sultry moments.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20). A recent disagreement with a friend may soon be revealed to be more complex than originally thought. Key issues may involve past group events. Stay alert and watch for complicated paperwork to soon arrive.

Aries (March 21-April 20). Social events will be easily disrupted. Expect a sharp increase in last minute messages and revised group plans. Remain lighthearted. Friends may be unpredictable and emotionally scattered. Watch for meaningful progress. Avoid unnecessary spending or new debts. Added expenses should arrive soon.

Taurus (April 21-May 20). New friendships will add to your emotional wealth. Take extra time to explore fresh proposals. Many Taurus will feel enthusiastic about romantic possibilities. Daily work assignments will be misleading. Expect vague instructions.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). A fresh approach to love and long-term commitment will now bring renewed intimacy. Expect your emotional resources to greatly increase. Establish shared social activities and common goals. Loved ones will offer a positive response to your questions. Some Geminis will experience a powerful wave of business ideas and rekindled faith in the work world. Go slow, there's much to explore.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Private thoughts may now play a key role in long-term romance. Watch for subtly repeated patterns, or unexpressed ideas. Loved ones will need extra time to settle difficult home issues. Stand your ground; a confident impression is important.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Social duties may soon be complicated by past disagreements. Expect loved ones to ask for more of your time and attention. All is positive, so do not worry. Pay extra attention to a friend who may have recently felt vulnerable. Don't hold back. Accept fresh invitations and expect others to offer clear instructions. Stay focused.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A colleague may suddenly ask for help with complex decisions. The timing of authority figures may be annoying. Expect limited information and high expectations. Plod through. Much will change concerning job titles, or joint projects. Romantic affection will deepen soon. Expect loved ones to provide obvious hints and bold signals.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Confidence and workplace focus returns. Watch for misinformed colleagues to soon rely heavily on your decisions. Many Librans will now be offered a rare opportunity to act as mentor. Do your duty and then quickly fade into the background. Others may mildly resent your abilities and personal style. Get extra rest.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Watch for home routines to be problematic. Confused answers from authority figures will soon be reversed. Wait for the right time. Romance may also demand special attention. Openly discuss unusual ideas. A loved one may have the wrong impression.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Expect subtle flirtations to be highly seductive. Many Sagittarians will now have the opportunity to exchange ideas with uniquely creative individuals. New social alliances will bring a revitalized interest in romance. Long-term relationships will also demand added attention.

—Distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services.

U.S. skiers look for home hill edge

By Meri-Jo Borzilleri
The Gazette

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - When Picabo Street and Erik Schlopy are home in Park City, Utah, the 2002 Winter Olympics are there, staring them in the face. "It's like, spitting distance from my house," Street said of the slopes that will host the Olympic slalom and giant slalom events less than three months from now. "Some countries can't even dream of having the Olympics in their country because it's too small, and mine's in my back yard. Boom. What a huge carrot."

Schlopy, a U.S. Team skier, will be driving around town when the slopes of Park City or Deer Valley appear, framed by his car window. Schlopy has the perfect picture to fill that frame. Come February, he'll be racing for Olympic medals in slalom at Deer Valley and giant slalom at Park City, his home hills.

"Being able to see it, driving by, it's a constant reminder," said Schlopy, the U.S. team's top hope for its first men's giant slalom medal. "That type of stuff is definitely helpful." But how helpful, really, is the home advantage for the U.S. Ski Team when big events - like the Olympics and World Cup - come along?

We'll get a hint this week as the World Cup circuit kicked off in earnest with four World Cups in Colorado over the next week. The World Cup women's slalom opened at Copper Mountain Wednesday, followed by Thursday's giant slalom. The tour then travels down the road to Aspen with two World Cup men's slaloms Sunday and Monday.

American skiers, who can spend up to seven straight weeks in Europe on the World Cup circuit, often point out the advantage of being home, eating American food and sleeping in American hotels. But that comfort level has yet to translate into domestic success at the Olympics or World Cup.

In the two Winter Olympics hosted by the United States since Alpine skiing was introduced (Squaw Valley in 1960 and Lake Placid in 1980), Americans have won just four of the 36 medals awarded, none gold. This is the deepest group of U.S. skiers in years, perhaps ever. Americans reached the World Cup podium

10 times last year, as seven different racers - Schlopy, Kristina Koznick, Sarah Schleper, Daron Rahlves, Bode Miller, Kirsten Clark and Caroline Lalive - finished in the top three. Last year, the only World Cups in the United States, men's and women's giant slaloms and slaloms at Aspen, yielded just one podium finish. Koznick, who isn't even a member of the U.S. Ski Team, finished third in slalom.

Do Americans get too comfortable, or too distracted, when skiing at home? Do Europeans have a psychological edge, no matter where they ski? It's hard to say. This much is certain: the Americans have about 11 weeks to figure it out before Salt Lake. Schlopy, for one, has a plan. He won't stay in his bed in his parents' house during the Games. "My cell phone's going to have a message: 'I appreciate your support, but I won't get back to you till after the Games. Thanks for calling.' People are going to have to understand that."

Whatever the case, the American home-soil jinx makes U.S. Ski & Snowboard chief Bill Marolt's 10-medal promise seem even more ambitious. Not to U.S. women's ski coach Marjan Cernigoi, though. "We planned two medals on the women's side the last four years," Cernigoi said. "We are still confident we can get there. If everybody does the same job - all the sports -

we'll get there."

Schlopy agrees. Last week, he won two World Cup tuneup slaloms at Loveland. As if to put punctuation on reality of the team depth, Chip Knight, a B Team member, was second in one of the races. "We're skiing fast," said Miller, who placed fifth in the season's first World Cup men's slalom at Soelden, Austria, two weeks ago. He fell in both Loveland races, but was leading by a half-second after the first race's initial run. "Everyone's psyched. It's the first real comparison and we fared real well."

Schlopy knows about fast starts. His two wins last week ran his Loveland string to four straight after sweeping both slaloms last season. That jump-started a career year that saw him place third overall in World Cup giant slalom, the best U.S. men's GS result since 1983, when Phil Mahre won the title. He also placed fourth at a World Cup in Park City. "We're

starting to change things around," Schlopy insists. "The home field is becoming an advantage."

With the U.S. team's depth, the feeling is this: If American skiers can't put the home-course jinx to rest this season, they may never. Time will tell.

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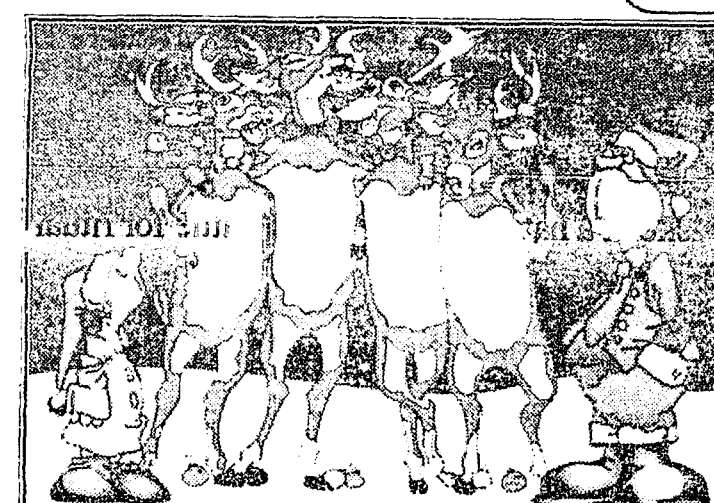
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Dr. Love and Deb Auchery

Unfortunately Dr. Love and Deb Auchery have been ill and were unable to finish their answers, but don't worry they will be back for the special edition issue that comes out on December 4th.



Anthrax continued from page 6

clerks now wear gloves," said Bob King, Press Secretary for Governor Knowles. "Even before this all happened, mail went through a mailroom and was opened there, but on occasion some mail would get dropped off at the front desk and get through. Now every letter, or package goes through the mailroom. Everything is open by people wearing gloves."

From the outset the Governor's office has been responding to reports of suspicious packages. There have been about 100 scares which have all tested negative for anthrax. The state health labs are under strict orders to contact the Governor's office immediately if there is a positive test for the deadly bacteria. The scares have ranged from a letter from Saudi Arabia which the recipient was not expecting, to mail-order laundry detergent leaking from a box at the downtown post office. A threat that was taken very seriously was at the Head Start administrative office. The office was sealed and no one was allowed to leave until all six people in the office and the suspicious letter tested negative for anthrax.

There were several hoaxes in Alaska in the weeks that followed the discovery of the Daschle letter. Someone left a note on a pile of powder in a hallway at the Puffin Inn in Anchorage that read "anthrax" to which people responded seriously. Someone also called in a threat to a VA clinic which closed the facility for the day.

King said that the hoaxes dried up pretty quickly when a man was caught in the act perpetrating a hoax and charged with terroristic threatening which carries with it the possible sentence of life in prison.

"It's downright scary that someone would do this using such a trusted and readily accepted means as the mail, in which they hit unintended targets," said King. "Where they target Daschle, but who they end up killing are postal workers, it's scary."

"You think it can't happen here, but that's probably what they were saying in the Brentwood facility," said King. "You have to take it seriously."

***This story was written with information gathered from AP and CNN.Com

WTC continued from page 2

have dug trenches into city streets, as electrical and telephone systems remain under repair. The scene exudes a strange power. "It's like a magnet," said Henry Fernandez, a Brooklyn native who is now an electrician in New Castle, Del. "You just get drawn to it."

Many want to leave something behind. They include letters of tribute from Kingsport, Tenn., to Japan. One typical sheet of paper reads, "Wimberley, Texas, sends love, prayers and hopes to all in New York. You will not be forgotten." In one poster, middle school children from Eau Claire, Wis., are lined up on a soccer field to spell out USA. Another banner announces the forthcoming bicentennial of the 1803 Louisiana Purchase.

On security fences bordering Broadway, mourners leave shirts and caps from fire departments across the world. People have hung large bed sheets and given out pens so visitors can write impromptu messages. Many posters have a common theme, the heart-shaped symbol of love: Oregon Loves New York; Holland Loves New York; California University of Pennsylvania Loves New York; God Loves New York.

Elsewhere around Ground Zero, people have etched their thoughts on the dusty windows of closed businesses. In the window of one cafe, someone drew the outline of the Twin Towers, with the notation "WTC RIP, Sept. 11, '01." On the same pane, someone erased an apparent obscenity next to the name of Osama bin Laden. "It's an overwhelming feeling of destruction, how destructive people can be," said Nancy Perkovich, an lawyer from Sacramento, Calif. "You think about all the lives who were in there."

The estimated death toll has steadily fallen, a sliver of good news since the Sept. 11 attack. Once feared as high as 7,000, the number of fatalities is now estimated at less than 3,900, as authorities

have discovered duplicate names on different lists and foreign workers who are still alive. "With all the hustle and bustle (of the World Trade Center), it's amazing they lost so few people," said Dennis Strack, a financial planner from St. Louis who trained in one of the towers. "You have to give a lot of credit to the rescue people."

Visitors also pointed out that the real death total would never be known. The fires incinerated some victims; others were pulverized when the towers collapsed. Many are struck by the sheer size of the devastation. "If you watched it on television, you can't get the full scope of it, the magnitude of it, the size of it," said Colleen Daniel, an IRS computer programmer who lives near Cincinnati.

Same tourists said they visited New York specifically to pay tribute at Ground Zero. They described their journey as an attempt to give something back to the big city. "I've been to New York many, many times and I've always had a great time," said Ken Anderson, who drove from his home in White Mills, Ky. "It's always been very good to me. I just felt compelled to come down there in bad times." After taking some pictures, Anderson planned to go to Bloomingdale's to buy firefighters hats as gifts, then head over to Rockefeller Center for a little ice skating.

Others expressed a personal connection to Ground Zero. They said that while terrorists targeted the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, they attacked the United States itself. "It's definitely the biggest thing that happened to this country," said Pru Chapman, who works at a homeless shelter in Boston. "It's affected not only our military but so many civilians. It's affected people all over the country, from New York to California."

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